



Department of Justice

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Northern District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

Albany, New York —United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian and Harry Corbitt, Superintendent, New York State Police, announced that on February 23, 2010, **SHAWN BUTCHER**, age 35, of Wynantskill, New York, pled guilty in United States District Court in Albany before the Honorable Thomas J. McAvoy to Count One of an indictment charging him with the receipt of child pornography.

In connection with his plea, **BUTCHER** admitted the following during his plea proceedings:

Between about August, 2004 and July 21, 2009, **BUTCHER**, while in his residence, used a Hewlett Packard Pavilion laptop computer, serial no. CND6170LLL to access the internet. While on the internet **BUTCHER** downloaded and installed a file sharing program called "Limewire" onto said computer.

While surfing the internet and visiting various websites or while using the Limewire program, **BUTCHER** knowingly obtained several electronic files containing still images and videos depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. **BUTCHER** then downloaded some of these still images and videos to the aforementioned computer wherein he would ultimately save the electronic files.

On March 19, 2009 investigators identified the IP address assigned to **BUTCHER'S** internet account with Time Warner Cable. Investigators further identified that a computer using **BUTCHER'S** IP address was permitting other Limewire users seeking child pornography to obtain child pornography from **BUTCHER**. On July 21, 2009 investigators executed a search warrant at **BUTCHER'S** residence. The aforementioned Hewlett Packard laptop computer along with other electronic items were seized and searched.

A forensic examination of the aforementioned HP laptop computer, which belonged to **BUTCHER**, was subsequently conducted. A number of movie files which depict minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, as those terms and

phrases are defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(2), were recovered from said computer. Said images depicted individuals under the age of 18 engaged in, among other things, vaginal sex, oral sex, masturbation and the lascivious exhibition of the genitals and pubic area. All of the images recovered depicted actual, as opposed to computer generated, images of minors engaged in such conduct.

BUTCHER knowingly and willfully received and possessed the aforesaid images. He also received, downloaded and possessed the images knowing that they depicted minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. BUTCHER obtained such images from, among other places, individuals and websites located outside the State of New York. Moreover, such images, and the actual computer used to obtain these depictions, were transported in interstate and foreign commerce and were produced using materials that had been mailed, or shipped or transported in interstate and foreign commerce.

Sentencing was scheduled by Judge McAvoy for June 24, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. in U.S. District Court in Binghamton, New York. **BUTCHER** faces a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum of five years, and a fine of up to \$250,000.00. **BUTCHER** was released pending his sentencing.

This case was investigated by the New York State Police.

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